



April 17, 2003

INFORMATION UPDATE FOR WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/THELEAK/>



Water Supply Outlook

The water supply outlook is good. March rainfall was over 150 percent of normal in our mountain watersheds. Chester Morse Lake is currently above its normal water surface elevation for this time of year, and the Tolt Reservoir is about normal. As of mid-April, the snowpack in our mountain watersheds has begun its melt. The snowpack remains low, at about 61 percent of normal in the Cedar watershed (65 percent last week), and 57 percent of normal in the Tolt watershed (59 percent last week). In a normal year, about 29.5 inches of snow water equivalent would be present in the Cedar watershed, and about 38.9 inches in the Tolt watershed. Our actual snow water accumulations are approximately 18.1 inches in the Cedar watershed, and 22.0 inches in the Tolt watershed. SPU is confident that we'll start the summer with full reservoirs.

Supplemental instream flows are being provided to Cedar River sockeye salmon fry to aid in their annual outmigration. Chinook fry emergence is complete, while sockeye and coho continue to emerge from the gravel. In the Cedar, essentially all sockeye fry will move directly downstream to rear in Lake Washington. Although the majority of chinook fry typically migrate downstream shortly after emergence, a significant number of fish may remain to rear for up to 3 months in the Cedar and South Fork Tolt rivers. The release of sockeye salmon fry from the Cedar River interim sockeye hatchery, begun in January, is now complete. WDFW crews also installed the fry migration trap in the lower Cedar River at Renton and are enumerating emigrating juvenile chinook and sockeye salmon each night.

Adult summer-run steelhead are spawning in the South Fork Tolt River. Initial spawning surveys conducted by WDFW suggest another strong return of summer-run steelhead to the Tolt this year.

Water consumption for the week ending April 13 averaged 117 mgd. Last week's average is greater than the average of 112 mgd over the same period last year, but remains less than the average of 129 mgd used during the same period in 1994-2000.

Major construction of fish passage, screening facilities, and dam stabilization features at Landsburg continues, along with major construction at Lake Youngs for the Cedar Treatment Facility.

Updated information on water supply conditions can always be found on our website;
<http://seattle.gov/util/watersupply/current.htm>



CIP Projects Update

Cedar Treatment Facility Design-Build-Operate Project

Clearwells

Two of the four South Clearwell roof quarter sections are pour. They are on schedule for pouring a quarter section every ten days. Columns and footings are being poured on as fill-in work. Both 10-million gallon storage structures are scheduled for substantial completion in July of 2003.

Ozone Building

The pipeline basin #4 walls will be complete next week. A leak test of this basin will take place and backfill will be placed to the east of the building. Electrical duct bank work will be ongoing for the next two months.

UV Building

The inlet pipe is encased with concrete and backfill will take place next week. A leak test of the structure and piping will be completed towards the end of the month. They are forming and setting re-steel for the upper building slabs on-grade and walls with concrete pours about every week. The UV pipe cross flanges will be installed in April without the reactor tubes.

Flow Control Facility #4

The pipe was delivered last month and they are installing valves, appurtenances, and welding out pipe sections in April. Concrete pours to complete this valve vault will follow shortly after pipe installation. Hydrostatic testing of the pipe will likely occur at the beginning of May. The facility will then remain in an emergency use mode until plant operations in 2004.



Cedar Treatment Facility—Aerial view of intake area at Lake Youngs

Flow Control Facility #5

Shoring piles and lagging will be next week and throughout April and in to May. Following will be a mass excavation for the structure base slab and walls. Large diameter piping will arrive in June.

Raw Water Intake

Piles for tower five will be driven in May. Concrete pours for towers 2-4 columns is scheduled for this and next week. The 72" raw water piping concrete has cured. All sections of tower 5 are in-place and being connected over-water, a few extra cross braces are being installed. The raw water pumps were factory tested last week, and will be installed this summer.

PSE Substation

Construction of the substation is scheduled to begin in May, and should be completed in September. It will provide power to the new treatment facility.

Additional project update information is available on the public web site (<http://projects.ch2m.com/cedarps/>). Or, by calling Duane Maki at (206) 615-2001.



Water Quality Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data from March 2003

All purveyors remained in compliance with the Total Coliform Rule for the year. There were no positive coliform samples in areas served by purveyors in March 2003. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.5 to 0.8 mg/L during the last month, with an overall average of 0.7 mg/L. The target residual at the Tolt Treatment Facility remained 1.3 mg/L and the Cedar target residual remained 1.5 mg/L.

Disinfection By-Products Results

Results for total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids were mailed to purveyors last week. All purveyor samples were well below the maximum contaminant levels.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel currently meets every other week. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the most recent Cedar distribution sample was 6.0 and the Tolt supply was 1.8. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert.

SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.



Regional Conservation

Program Update Summary

On the web at www.seattle.gov/util/purveyors

UMBRELLA MARKETING

Savingwater.org web usability testing

The marketing sub-committee is moving forward with plans to conduct usability testing on the Savingwater.org web site. The testing should help lead to improved customer navigation around the site and help to better identify the type of content that people hope to find via the site. Usability testing is currently scheduled to take place during the second quarter of the year.

CONTACT: Cornell Amaya (206) 386-1170

EDUCATION

H2O Festival

Students Experience Water Shortage

Students attending the "What Will You Save Today?" presentations at this year's H2O Water Festival 2003, experienced a water shortage simulation as part of learning about wise and efficient water use. Scenarios for water shortages were given including droughts and water emergencies. Mike Mercer of SPU, representing the Saving Water Partnership's Education Team gave presentations to students from the Highline area. The annual event, sponsored by a coalition of partners, is coordinated by Covington Water District and held on the Highline Community College campus.

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570

Conservation Game Requests for Proposal Sent Out

The next step in a lengthy process to develop an on-line home water conservation game was taken recently with the advertisement to prospective developers. The game will provide players with options for water use as they move about a virtual home and allow them to score points for wise choices. The game will be compatible with the recently published on-line map "Seattle's Regional Water System".

If all goes as planned, the final version should be available in August.

CONTACT: Mike Mercer, (206) 684-0570

RESIDENTIAL INDOOR

2003 Multifamily Toilet Rebates top 1,500

Since January 1st, 1,566 toilets have been rebated through the multifamily toilet rebate program. Of these 43% are in Purveyor areas. Also since January 1st, the program has received applications to replace over 1,900 toilets. As a reminder the rebate is now \$60 per toilet through May 31st. An evaluation of the program is currently being fielded.

CONTACT: David Broustis, (206) 684-4150

Residential Indoor Working Group Reviews 2003 Strategies

The Residential Indoor Working Group discussed changes to the WashWise program and the multifamily toilet completed projects and rebate goals for 2003. Also a possible pilot programs for a residential flapper promotion was discussed.

CONTACT: David Broustis, (206) 684-4150

WashWise Rebates Mirroring the Economy

During the first two months of 2003, WashWise rebates totaled 1,241 – about 5% less than last year. Of this total, over 51% are from Purveyor areas. February marked the beginning of Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) support of washer rebates. The Saving Water Partnership currently provides \$40 washer rebates, with a \$35 additional rebate from Seattle City Light or PSE (SnoPUD also provides energy rebates for Olympic View water customers). This rebate will change during the Double Your Savings promotion.

CONTACT: David Broustis, (206) 684-4150

Double Your Savings Washer Promotion

Between April 15th and July 15th, customers will have an opportunity to receive \$100 efficient washer rebates. The "Double Your Savings" promotion will provide \$50 rebates from local energy utilities (PSE or SCL), along with an additional \$50 manufacturer rebate for the purchase of qualified energy and water saving clothes washers. During this promotion, the WashWise rebate will be suspended and will NOT be offered. The only difference customers will notice is a different rebate form. The WashWise program will resume issuing rebates again on July 16th at the \$75 level.

CONTACT: David Broustis, (206) 684-4150

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE SECTOR

Targeting Residential Landscape High Water User

Over the past two the Landscape Working Group has been working to determine new outreach strategies. These strategies are aimed at raising awareness and increasing educational opportunities amongst residential landscape

high water users. The overarching strategy is to attract high water users with messages that appeal to these customers' aesthetic interests. Financial incentives and environmental stewardship are generally not key motivators to this audience. However, "selling" them on having a beautiful garden while they use conservation-oriented practices is a more promising hook. The Landscape Working Group is looking at ways to help expand existing partnerships, enhance the landscape page of savingwater.org and help us spotlight successful gardeners who not only use water smart practices, but also environmentally friendly practices among other strategies. A draft outreach plan is expected in early April. Once the plan is finalized, the Working Group will determine which elements of the plan to implement in 2003 and which may be better executed in 2004. All strategies should be flexible, support existing programs and build upon each other over time.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, (206) 615-0516.

Annual Landscape Industry Meeting

On March 24, The Saving Water Partnership hosted a meeting with representatives of the landscape industry. This is generally an annual event (2002 was skipped) to talk with the industry about a variety of common interests. In addition to providing an update on water supply, we talked about the recent barrier analysis to adopting landscape conservation behaviors, and discussed possible areas of collaboration to address some of the barriers identified. Working together on training staff in retail nurseries and forming a working group to help achieve our residential irrigation goals are two areas that may pan out for collaboration.

The Landscape Working Group will review details on the meeting outcome.

CONTACT: Nota Lucas (206) 684-5855

Northwest Natural Yard Days Moving Deeper Into Retail

Northwest Natural Yard Days will move even deeper into the retail sector this year. Instead of participating agencies holding a kick-off sale this year, retailers will hold 14 special sale events at their stores on each of the weekend days in April (with the exception of Easter Sunday). All discounted products will be available in the stores during the entire month of April, and deeper discounts will be available at these special sale events. The list of sales dates and locations will be accessible through the savingwater.org web site. The SWP is part of a regional funding partnership that includes King County and Tacoma.

CONTACT: Carl Woestwin (206) 684-4684

Northwest Natural Yard Days & KING5-TV

This year's Northwest Natural Yard Days will be promoted through advertising with KING5-TV. We will be running four 30-second ads featuring gardening personality Ciscoe Morris, that include 20 second vignettes with Ciscoe on growing healthy soil, smart watering, natural lawn care and least toxic insect, weed and disease control. These will run at a variety of times and venues. In addition, we are purchasing a one-time direct e-mail to 21,000 selected King5.com opt-in subscribers. Associated "freebies" include KING5 website ads, an automated phone survey of 500 randomly selected residents, and promotion to KING5's seven sister stations.

CONTACT: Carl Woestwin, (206) 684-4684

Natural Yard Care Neighborhoods to Begin This Spring

Seattle, Bellevue and Redmond will begin Natural Yard Care Neighborhood programs this spring. The first test of this program consists of a series of 3 2-hour classes on topics covering each of the current "Naturals" brochures – soil building, plant selection, watering, pest control, composting and lawn care. Residents will be intensively recruited and there will be a raffle of yard care products at each class as an incentive for participation. This new program is an outgrowth of a successful Natural Yard Care Neighborhood in Renton.

CONTACT: Carl Woestwin, (206) 684-4684

Ciscoe Morris Featured in Northwest Natural Yard Days TV Spots

Ciscoe will be filming these spots for us on March 21, 24 and 25. There are four short scripts on Healthy Soil, Smart Watering, Pesticides & Weeds, and Natural Lawn Care. As with other landscape-related promotions done with King County, the ad will refer customers to their web site and our phone line (the Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline). In April, 94 of these ads will run on KING5 during Ciscoe's show, Oprah, Martha Stewart, Dr. Phil, the Today Show and various news shows.

CONTACT: Carl Woestwin, (206) 684-4684

COMMERCIAL

Promoting Efficient Irrigation Products

Program development for residential irrigation control incentives is well underway. Currently, staff is working with distributors and manufactures to collect information about irrigation control products that automatically

adjust to either historical or real-time evapotranspiration data. SWP staff created a list of questions for the distributors and manufactures to complete about each of the products that meet the above criterion. Building strong relationships with distributors and the irrigation industry is part of the approach that will be used to promote the residential irrigation device program slated for the summer of 2003. Staff met with representatives from United Pipe and Supply to get feedback on the list of questions, and to discuss the types of products that would qualify. Jenna also reviewed how the Water Efficient Irrigation Program (for commercial/multifamily customers) could provide opportunities for the distributors to promote their efficient irrigation products to contractors and customers.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955 and Tracey Rowland, (206) 233-3839

Water Supply Update and SWP Landscape Initiatives Presented to WALP

The Washington Association of Landscape Professionals (WALP) hosted their monthly meeting at Horizon, an irrigation distributor, and invited the SWP to present a water supply update and an overview of 2003 landscape and irrigation initiatives. WALP members are interested in partnership opportunities that promote their businesses and SWP resource conservation messages.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955

Results of the No-Flush Urinal Workshop

With assistance from the Business and Industry Resource Venture, a no-flush roundtable discussion was held on Wednesday, March 26th. The event was an unqualified success with



over 25 attendees including representatives of all three manufacturers of a no-flush urinal product. The reason for the event was to allow for an open discussion of the experiences, both positive and negative, in using this promising water conservation technology. Only those facilities with actual experience with installing and maintaining one or more no-flush urinals were invited to send representatives to participate. In spite of this technology's growth in both numbers installed and general acceptance, problems persist with their performance in some cases.

Briefly stated, the experiences of most roundtable attendees were positive. A clear requirement for successful adoption of this technology is the development of a daily regimen of maintenance procedures and a commitment to perform the procedures without variation. For their part, the vendors expressed the need for better training and education, and field support for the product. This must be an ongoing commitment on their part to get customers over some of possible humps in their adoption of this technology.

CONTACT: Philip Paschke, 684-5883, or Roger Van Gelder, 615-1257

1% Commercial-Industrial Program Reaches Milestone

Water Smart Technology has reached a milestone of 500 project applications received since the program's inception in 1994. This encompasses a vast range of projects, from small air-cooled ice machines saving a few hundred gallons per day (gpd), to industrial processes at a steel plant or shipyard saving tens of thousands of gpd. The program has proven it's flexibility in the ability to serve the wide range of water conservation opportunities in the regional service area. There are many thousands of additional opportunities for water efficiency in the commercial sector. An effort will be made this spring to reach those customers with a small business outreach campaign that will include direct mail and other forms of outreach to business organizations. The Business and Industry Resource Venture will play a large roll in the implementation of this campaign.

CONTACT: Philip Paschke, 684-5883



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